PCT/IB2003/002889 WO 2004/010897 10

Claims

1. An implant (1;10;12;14;15) for surrounding for example an intestine on implantation into an animal or a human body, characterized in

- that the implant (1;10;12;14;15) comprises an outer ring (2),
- that an inner ring (3) is arranged in the outer ring (2) about a joint axis, and
- that a number of connecting links (4) extending between the outer ring (2) and the inner ring (3).
- 2. An implant (1;10;12;14;15)according to claim 1, characterized in that the connecting links (4) are distributed at a mutual angular distance along a ring (2,3) and jointly forming a number of openings (5) between the inner ring (3) and the outer ring (2).
- 3. An implant (1;10;12;14;15) according to claim 1 or claim 2, characterized in that a connecting link (4) consists of at least one rod (4) or at least one thread.
- An implant according to claim 3, characterized in that 4. the implant (1;10;12) furthermore comprises at least one elongated anchoring means (6) secured in at least one opening (5) at an anchoring end (7) and extending outwards from the at least one opening (5) to a free end (9).
- 5. An implant (1;10;12) according to claim 3 or claim 4, characterized in that an anchoring means (6) is secured in an opening (5) via at least one thread (11) extending out from the anchoring end (7) of the anchoring means (6).

- 6. An implant (1;10;12;14;15) according to claim 4 or claim 5, characterized in that an anchoring means (6) is embedded in the outer ring (2) or in at least one anchoring link (4) or in both the outer ring (2) and the at least one anchoring link (4).
- 7. An implant according to claim 3, characterized in that the implant (14;15) furthermore comprises at least one elongated anchoring means (6) partly extending between two adjacent openings (5) and partly extending outwards from the inner ring (3) via the outer ring (2) to a free end (9), the section of the outer ring (2) extending between the two openings (5) being integrated in an anchoring means (6).
- 8. An implant (14;15) according to claim 7, characterized in that the implant (14;15) forms a total flexible mesh.
- 9. An implant (1;10;12;14;15) according to any of the claims 1 8, characterized in that the inner ring (2) has a larger axial thickness than the outer ring (3).
- 10. An implant (1;10;12;14;15) according to any of the claims
 1 9, characterized in that the implant is made of a
 biocompatible material.
- 11. An implant (1;10;12;14;15) according to any of the claims 1 10, characterized in that the radial extent of the rings (2,3) is smaller than 5 mm, preferably smaller than 4 mm, and especially smaller than 3 mm.
- 12. Application of the implant (1;10;12;14;15) according to any of the claims 1 - 11 for prophylactic and/or therapeutic treatment of a hernia at a stomy.